

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service

Crop Progress and Condition



USDA, NASS, West Virginia Field Office

Charmaine Wilson, State Statistician 1900 Kanawha Boulevard, E Charleston, WV 25305 (304) 357-5123 or 1-800-535-7088 **Homepage:** http://www.nass.usda.gov/wv In Cooperation with:
U.S. Dept. of Commerce - NOAA
USDA Farm Service Agency
WV Cooperative Extension Service
WV Department of Agriculture

Released: February 25, 2019 Issue: 02-19

<u>Agricultural News</u>: The month of February was very wet with flooding. Conditions in the fields are extremely muddy, limiting fieldwork and making it difficult on livestock. Farming activities for the month included calving, lambing, and spreading hay on land to help with muddy conditions for livestock.

SOIL MOISTURE and SUPPLIES for week ending 02/24/19

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	-	-	37	63
Subsoil	-	-	44	56
Hay & Roughage	19	28	50	3
Feed grain	1	5	93	1

⁻Represents zero.

CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 02/24/19

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent	
	%	%	%	%	%	
Winter Wheat	1	16	53	30	-	
Cattle & Calves	-	2	36	58	4	
Sheep & Lambs	-	3	33	61	3	

⁻ Represents zero.

LIVESTOCK PROGRESS for week ending 02/24/19

Crop/Livestock Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg	
	%	%	%	%	
Calved	29	-	-	-	
Lambed	38	-	-	-	

⁻ Represents data not available.

February Summary of Weather and Agricultural Conditions January 28 - February 24, 2019

Weather conditions in February were very wet. Overall, temperatures across West Virginia were well below normal the week ending **February 3**rd. All stations reported from six to ten degrees below average, but these low average temperatures do not indicate the extreme temperature shifts throughout the week. The first half of the week was near normal, until extreme cold moved into the State. Low temperatures during this time dropped into the negative numbers, and most stations were around 20 degrees below normal. Just days after the extreme cold event, high temperatures were in the mid 60s bringing the average for the week back to around the -8 degree mark. Williamson had the highest recorded temperature of 68 degrees. Terra Alta had the lowest recorded temperature of -14 degrees. The state average temperature was 25 degrees. The State finally had a chance to dry out somewhat. All stations reported below normal precipitation amounts. The majority of the precipitation for the week fell as snow. Terra Alta had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.62 of an inch. Pineville and Bluestone Dam had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.05 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 0.21 of an inch.

For the week ending **February 10**th, stations across the State reported above normal temperatures. Most stations were six to ten degrees above normal, but the week began warmer. Over the first half of the week, temperatures were around 20 degrees above normal, with several daytime highs reaching the 70s; several high temperature records were broken. The last half of the week, temperatures were below average, bringing overall temperatures closer to normal. Charleston had the highest recorded temperature of 76 degrees. Terra Alta had the lowest recorded temperature of 10 degrees. The state average temperature was 41 degrees. High precipitation amounts were recorded throughout the State, the only exception was the extreme Eastern Panhandle. All other stations received large amounts of precipitation as multiple weather systems moved through. Flooding was reported in the western third of West Virginia. Parkersburg had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 4.19 inches. Martinsburg had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.25 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 1.57 inches.

West Virginia temperatures averaged above normal for the week ending **February 17**th. Stations ranged from 1 to 5 degrees above normal. Highs for the week were generally in the 50s, with a couple of locations reaching the lower 60s. Low temperatures for the week were generally in the 20s, although a couple of mountain locations reached the mid to upper teens. Martinsburg had the highest recorded temperature of 62 degrees. Terra Alta had the lowest recorded temperature of 16 degrees. The state average temperature was 37 degrees. Above average precipitation was reported across the State again, nearly all stations reported greater than normal amounts. The only station that did not reach climate average was Elkins. Four stations reported over two inches. Beckley had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 2.53 inches. Belington had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.58 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 1.36 inches.

The week ending **February 24**th was another warm week for West Virginia, as all stations reported above normal temperatures throughout the State. All stations were one to eight degrees over normal, with most stations around three degrees over. Temperatures began slightly below normal before a warm front pushed over the region and warmed temperatures for the remainder of the week. Williamson had the highest recorded temperature of 63 degrees. Wheeling had the lowest recorded temperature of 16 degrees. The state average temperature was 40 degrees. Precipitation amounts continue to be above normal. All stations reported far above normal precipitation amounts. This was due to two very moisture laden systems moving over the State during the week. Flash flooding and river flooding were reported along the Ohio River and the Southern coalfields. Bluefield had the highest recorded amount of precipitation with 3.95 inches. Wheeling had the lowest recorded amount of precipitation with 0.91 of an inch. The state average precipitation was 2.47 inches.

Temperature and Precipitation Data for the Week Ending 02/24/19

•	Temperature			Precipitation					
			Weekly		We	ek's	Since April 1st	Same Week	Season
Station	High	Low	Average	Departure	Total	Norm	2018	Last Year	Normal
NORTHWEST									
WHEELING	56	16	35	2	0.91	0.54	53.29	46.69	34.61
PARKERSBURG	59	20	39	3	1.92	0.69	52.32	49.53	37.28
CRESTON	61	23	40		2.70		57.54	42.23	
NORTHCENTRAL									
MORGANTOWN	60	19	38	3	1.30	0.67	51.36	47.16	37.78
CLARKSBURG	61	24	41	6	2.05	0.79	51.56	50.87	41.65
BELINGTON	62	25	41		2.12		60.93	50.20	
WESTON	61	26	41		2.28		68.25	54.23	
SOUTHWEST									
WILLIAMSON	63	28	45		3.41		50.47	54.35	
HUNTINGTON	59	28	42	3	2.93	0.80	54.97	45.88	38.46
CHARLESTON	61	28	43	4	2.95	0.83	57.45	46.65	39.84
RIPLEY	61	23	40		2.70		55.69	43.39	
CENTRAL									
TERRA ALTA	55	17	35	_	2.65		71.82	59.35	
ELKINS	60	25	41	8	2.36	0.79	63.31	44.70	41.76
MARLINTON	59	27	38		2.91		56.78	44.15	
SOUTHERN			4.0						
BECKLEY	57	23	40	4	2.99	0.70	52.90	44.96	37.43
PINEVILLE	60	30	43		3.47	0.70	52.66	50.38	05.04
BLUEFIELD	57	25	40	1	3.95	0.70	53.78	45.06	35.91
WHITE SUL SP	61	27	38		3.21		55.00	36.32	
BLUESTONE DAM	58	25	38		3.38		50.78	38.13	
NORTHEASTERN			07		4.00	0.50			05.05
MARTINSBURG	62	22	37	2	1.38	0.59	63.93	38.66	35.05
KEYSER	61	20	35		1.87		62.05	40.88	
MOOREFIELD	55	23	37		0.97		45.82	34.68	

State Average Temperature 40 State Average Precipitation 2.47

Source:

Weather comments and data - Dept. of Commerce, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration National Weather Service, Charleston, WV.